

CARRIZO OUTLOOK

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COUNTY UNIT LAW WILL DO WONDERS

Every District in State to Receive Double Money for Schools, According to Circular Issued

MANY WEAK DISTRICTS NOW ASSURED LONGER TERMS

That each public school district, including the cities, will receive double the sum for school purposes from the state, heretofore derived from that source, is set forth in a circular issued by the department of education, which explains how the county unit law will prove of inestimable benefit to the state in reducing taxation as well as in providing better school facilities, longer terms and higher instruction, according to press reports from Santa Fe. Among other things the circular says:

"Under separate cover we are sending you copies of six school laws enacted at the last session of the legislature. You will be interested in all of these laws and I urge a careful reading of each one, but your particular attention is called to the laws involving the matter of school revenues, senate bill No. 232.

"The present school year is governed by senate bill No. 75, which amends chapter 51, laws of 1912 under which school revenues have been provided only insofar as it provides for a minimum term of seven months. The only matter in this bill to which attention need be directed is that school must be maintained for seven months where conditions have been met and the amount of state aid allowed is increased to make up what is lacking to provide a total of \$420 for each school room instead of \$300 as heretofore.

"The matter of vital concern at this time is to see to it that estimates of school needs for the fiscal year, beginning September 1, 1915, are properly made and that levies shall be made by the county commissioners in accordance with the needs of each school district.

SOURCES OF REVENUE CHANGED

"The only change in sources of revenue provided for the maintaining of schools lies in the elimination of the county three mill tax which was distributed pro rata according to school population among the districts of the county and the elimination of a special school district tax for the purpose of maintenance. All other revenues belonging to the district will be placed to its credit as heretofore including a special levy for the purchase of site for, purchase, construction and first equipment of school houses, and the interest on, and provide a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of any indebtedness of such district." Any surplus remaining may be set aside upon petition of half of the legal voters. Chapter 37, laws 1903.

"For maintaining a term of nine months in incorporated city, town, village and rural districts where a graded school of at least four teachers is or is to be established and for maintaining a term of seven, eight or nine months in all other districts, house bill No. 232 provides that the board of education shall make an estimate of its needs and a sufficient special county levy will be made on all taxable property of the county from the proceeds of which levy sufficient funds with other moneys belonging to the district will be provided to maintain terms of school as mentioned. Please note that in the rural districts, directors must make the estimate of needs to the county superintendent on or before the

first of May, 1915, said county superintendent shall certify the estimate approved by him to the county commissioners on or before the first of June, 1915. Boards of education in incorporated districts must make their estimates of school needs direct to the county commissioners on or before the first of June, 1915. We suggest therefore that for the school year beginning September 1, 1915, estimates be made as provided for in house bill No. 232 on the basis of the expenditures for the school year ending August 31, 1915. It is desirable that expenditures under the new law should be practically the same as for the year ending August 31, 1915, so that a fair comparison of results may be obtained.

SCHOOL BUILDING FUND

"Under the county unit law there will be no reserve fund available for the weak districts, but there is a very good school buildings fund to assist districts having little taxable property in constructing a substantial school house.

"The entire state current school fund will be distributed pro rata and the income for each district from this source will be double that distributed heretofore, because nothing will be reserved for weak districts.

"The county school fund will continue as heretofore and will be filled from the same sources except that there will be no three mill county tax. This county fund will be distributed pro rata among the districts as heretofore.

"There is no limit fixed for expenditures except necessary expenses allowed by the board of county commissioners, in incorporated city town and village districts, and in rural districts where a graded school of four teachers is, or is to be established. In other rural districts, the expenditures shall not exceed \$60 per month for each third grade teacher, \$75 for each second grade teacher and \$90 for each first grade teacher, allowing one school room for each 50 children or fraction thereof. This limitation, however, does not include the expenditures for construction, purchase, lease, repair, or equipment of school houses, which will be provided for in addition to the amounts as limited above.

APPEAL PROVIDED FOR

"Note that districts which will be aggrieved by any action of the county commissioners have the right of appeal to the district court.

"This law is, of course, one in which we are tremendously interested. It must be kept in mind that the county unit of school administration and school taxation is generally approved throughout the United States and has the endorsement of the strongest and most practical educators throughout the country. In principle it is entirely correct and in administration it has proved successful wherever it has been established. It lies with the people of New Mexico to prove that all the people are interested in the education of all the children of all the people of the state. We are able to show that the burden of taxation for school purposes will be considerably less on account of the equal distribution of the taxes levied and upon this lower levy considerable more revenue will be provided for the schools than heretofore. It is our confident belief that the people of the state of New Mexico are ready for this advanced legislation, and that we are entering upon a new period of educational progress which shall surpass even the remarkable advancement of the last few years. If New Mexico one of the two newest states of the union shall be able to provide eight or nine months of school for each district in the state, the state will assume a position in educational matters to which older and richer states have been unable to attain."

MEETING OF LINCOLN COUNTY ROAD BOARD

The Board Re-organizes for the Ensuing Year and Transacts Much Business Under New Organization

BUY ROAD SUPPLIES AND PAY MANY BILLS

The Lincoln County Road Board met here on Monday, April 5th, re-organized for 1915, and transacted much business after the new organization had been perfected.

Dr. J. W. Laws was chosen as chairman for the ensuing year and J. B. French as secretary-treasurer, after which the board got busy and mapped out plans for the spring work.

It was decided by the board to get necessary supplies for immediate road construction, and J. B. French, the secretary was authorized to purchase shovels, scrapers, etc., and to include in the list of supplies a road drag to be used in the vicinity of Nogal Hill and to be left in that community in care of some resident.

A petition was presented to the board by the citizens of the Ruidoso valley relative to changes in roads in that section, but the board took no definite action owing to the fact that they had recommended the expenditure of state funds in that section, under the supervision of the state engineer at a previous meeting, and wished to hear from the State Highway Commission before taking any action.

The petition from the above locality for scraper, plow and other road supplies was granted and will be ordered at once.

It was decided that the two crossings on the Ruidoso, near the Minter place, that have received much discussion among the people of that section recently, be eliminated, Dr. J. W. Laws being authorized to have the work done, provided he can obtain the co-operation of the citizens of that section, together with donation work.

The board desires to have all delinquent road taxes listed and handed to the county treasurer as provided by law.

Bills were allowed out of the Road and Bridge fund to the amount of \$1500.

SOME BOOSTERS

Carrizozo has been cleaned up once more and the town looks fine. The tin can, the old shoe, old papers and the other trash that belong to the rubbish family have been gathered up and deposited outside the city and with the frequent showers we are having we will soon realize the city beautiful. But of course the women are responsible for most of it so we are informed, and they are to be congratulated on their success in making the old town look spick and span in a new spring gown. And the men, well, they help out, especially the sheriff's force that did the work, but they wouldn't have thought of it had not the women started it. Carrizozo women are some boosters and when they start to do a thing they always finish their undertaking.

MRS. ROLLAND ENTERTAINS

Wednesday evening was the occasion of a most delightful social event, given by Mrs. A. J. Rolland in honor of her mother, Mrs. Wm. C. McDonald who is visiting here from Santa Fe. Whist was the amusement of the evening, Mrs. Gurney making the highest score among the ladies and John A. Huley carrying off the gentlemen's prize for skill and luck.

A dainty two course supper was served at the conclusion of the events of the evening.

Mrs. Rolland will be hostess to a second division of her friends this evening in honor of Mrs. McDonald and a delightful occasion is anticipated by the invited guests.

SHULDA BABY DIES

Virginia, the two-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Shulda died at their home Friday morning. The little one had for some days been a sufferer from diphtheria and Health Officer Paden had raised the quarantine, but other complications unexpectedly set in and the life of the little one was claimed by death at the time above mentioned. In the absence of all ministers Elder S. W. Perry of the Baptist Church conducted the funeral services which were held from the residence Saturday afternoon. Interment was made in the local cemetery.

CONDOLENCE

The untimely death of our beloved fellow member, Nita Taylor, fell like a heavy blow on the anxious hearts of all of us.

We can ill spare the cheerful and comforting presence of our dear co-worker and friend.

In loving acknowledgment of the bright companionship of her beautiful life, beautifully lived, and in heartfelt grief at her sudden call to her happy reward, we the members of the White Oaks Union Sunday school, extend to her bereaved family and relatives our profound sympathy.

By the committee,
Geo. H. Webb,
Martha F. Wells,
Jennie E. Jones

ANOTHER JAIL DELIVERY

A man answering to the name of Cecil Jenson, with several aliases, who was under \$1500 bond awaiting action of the grand jury on a charge of forgery on the Exchange bank involving an amount of \$100, and Daniel Sandoval also awaiting action of the grand jury for horse stealing, escaped from the county jail Wednesday evening about 6 o'clock. It is said the prisoners made their escape by walking out of the door which had been left open by the jailer who had just entered and gone into the basement, forgetting the importance of keeping criminals behind locked doors.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE DATES

The teachers' institute for Lincoln County will be held here June 24 to 26. J. H. Hofer of Tucuman will be the conductor and Mrs. E. V. Jewett of this city will be the instructor.

NEW DEPARTMENT IN LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

The Home Credit System has been introduced in the Carrizozo High School. Has Proven to be Great Helper

INDUSTRIOUS PUPILS TO BE REWARDED

The Home Credit System, which has been thoroughly tested in the leading schools of the country, and found to furnish a stimulus to industry both in and out of school, has recently been instituted in the Carrizozo High School.

The system is a most admirable one, as those of the student body who help at home with the house work, chores, etc., are allowed credit on their school work. The parent is the judge in this case, and is furnished a report blank upon which to enter the grade which the pupil may be allowed for his share in the burden of home work. A grade of above 90 per cent in home work allows the student an addition of 2 per cent to his lowest grade for the current month, while if the parent judges the nature of his work at less than 90 per cent, out of a possible 100 per cent, he is allowed an addition of only 1 per cent to his lowest grade for that month. Below 75 per cent admits of no credit.

It is often the case that pupils coming from a distance have to leave home too early to be of much assistance at home with the morning chores and household duties; others leave early for school to avoid their share of the burdens of the home, however, investigation proved that there is no member of the local high school who does not do some of the work at home. Those who do not go home at noon have duties to discharge morning and evening. The system offers not only an incentive to the more thorough discharge of previous responsibilities, but the possible shouldering of new duties. The effect must be mutually helpful and productive of good if it receives the parental co-operation which it deserves.

FOREST HOMESTEADS

During the months of February and March, 1915, a total of 440 acres of land within the Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico, were listed with the Secretary of the Interior and will shortly be opened to entry under the Forest Homestead Act. The lands thus listed were applied for individually by five applicants, and each one of these tracts was examined by a Forest Officer and found to be more valuable for agriculture than for Forest purposes.

Those whose applications within the Lincoln National Forest were favorably acted upon during the months of February and March are: Nancy E. Berry, Parsons, New Mexico; Macaria Carreras, Willard, New Mexico; Fred F. Ferguson, Nogal, New Mexico; R. C. Hammet, Capitán, New Mexico; Oliver W. Pausch, Nogal, New Mexico.

In addition to this, 1900 acres listed to applicants within other National Forests in New Mexico, and 3082 acres within National Forests in Arizona.